

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 /011 W

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R 071440Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8909

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 5071

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PA

SUBJ: VISA RECIPROCITY

REF: STATE 289248, MEXICO 14504

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED REFTELS WITH SENIOR FONMIN OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF VISAS AND PASSPORTS. WHILE GOP POLICY IS FLEXIBLE TO SAY THE LEAST, IT APPEARS THAT ALL PARAGUAYAN EMBASSIES MAY ISSUE MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS AT THEIR DISCRETION IN UNDEFINED SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES. THE NORMAL PROCEDURE IS TO ISSUE A DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL VISA VALID FOR ONE ENTRY WITH PERMISSION TO REMAIN IN-COUNTRY FOR A SPECIFIC PERIOD. ONCE IN PARAGUAY, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT CAN EXTEND THE VALIDITY OF THE VISA.

2. COMMENT: FONMIN OFFICIAL SAID MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS COULD BE ISSUED IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES ONLY AFTER EMBOFF RAISED MATTER OF RECIPROCITY. IN PRACTICE, WE DOUBT IF PARAGUAYAN EMBASSIES OTHER THAN IN WASHINGTON WOULD ISSUE OTHER THAN ONE ENTRY VISAS.

3. THIS POST HAS SIMILAR PROBLEMS OF LACK OF RECIPROCITY, PARTICULARLY WITH BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA, WHICH ARE OFTEN VISITED BY MISSION PERSONNEL. A YEAR OR SO AGO BRASILIA AND BUENOS AIRES MADE INQUIRIES ON OUR BEHALF WITH MINISTRIES. BRAZIL
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CONFIRMED THAT EMBASSIES AUTHORIZED ISSUE ONLY ONE

ENTRY VISAS. ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID THEIR
EMBASSY ASUNCION COULD ISSUE MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS,
BUT EMBASSY ITSELF DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SUCH
MINISTRY RULING AND CONTINUES ISSUE ONE ENTRY VISAS.

4.WE ALSO FEEL ISSUANCE OF VISAS SHOULD BE RECIPROCAL.
SINCE FEW OFFICIALS OF COUNTRIES LISTED IN REFTELS
APPLY AT ASUNCION, WE FEEL THAT BEST WAY OF AROUSING
INTEREST ON THEIR PART WOULD BE FOR POSTS IN MEXICO
AND OTHER AREAS CLOSE TO THE U.S. TO BEGIN ISSUING
ONE ENTRY VISAS ON BASIS OF RECIPROCITY.
CARBONE

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